

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with President of Russia (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
President Putin

Notetakers: Tina Yarmchuk, Marko Bröz, and
Danielle Phillips

Interpreter: Peter Afanasenko

DATE, TIME: September 10, 2002, 4:04 - 4:08 p.m., EDT
AND PLACE: Oval Office

The President: Vladimir. (U)

President Putin: Yes. (U)

The President: It's good to hear your voice. (U)

President Putin: I'm glad to hear your voice. How are you? (U)

The President: I'm doing fine. I'm a busy boy these days. (U)

President Putin: I know you have a busy day today, but I wanted to speak to you today. In Russia, we say that time heals everything, but there are things we cannot forget and should not forget. Recently, we remembered those who perished in Moscow three years ago when their houses exploded and burned up. And today, together with you, we remember those who died in Washington and New York a year ago. I would like to tell you not only the words of sympathy and condolences, but also to express support on behalf of the Russian people. Please give my best regards to your family, your wife and daughters. I will not torture you anymore today. We'll have a chance to speak soon. (U)

The President: Your voice never tortures me, but this phone call means an awful lot, Vladimir. You were thoughtful to call last year right after the attacks, and now you're calling one year later to express your sympathies. I want to thank you very much, sir. (U)

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President Putin: If you're not against it, I will communicate first of all the text of our conversation to the mass media. We want them to know and people to know about our conversations and the levels of our relations. (U)

The President: Thank you very much, friend, and I will talk to you soon. (U)

President Putin: Thank you, and all the best. (U)

The President: Good-bye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --